

D-608
Greenbury T. Bell House
Hurlock
Private
c. 1899-1900

Distinctive for its intact Victorian porches of turned posts with turned or sawn baluster handrail and sawnwork corner brackets, the Greenbury T. Bell house survives in nearly unaltered condition since its construction at the close of the nineteenth century.

Estimated to date around 1899 by architectural detailing and land record research, the Greenbury T. Bell house follows a well-used center hall plan for the time period. Popular in vernacular building since the eighteenth century, the symmetrical center hall/single-pile plan house was given a Victorian twist with the addition of a projecting two-story pavilion on one side of the center entrance. A largely utilitarian two-story rear wing was provided with Victorian embellishments concentrated on the side porches enriched with turned or sawn decoration. Attached to the back of the kitchen were additional storage space in a single-story structure of vertical board sheathing.

The Greenbury T. Bell house has stood prominently along the west side of South Main Street since the turn of the twentieth century. In August 1899, Greenbury T. Bell, a resident of nearby Williamsburg, purchased an unimproved parcel of "Middle Division" from John M. Hurlock during a period of significant physical growth for the railroad town. The property was retained by the Bell children until the third quarter of the twentieth century; William Bell died in 1962 and his and his sister Riley's interests were sold to Arnie and Lorraine Smith in February 1974.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-608

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Greenbury T. Bell House

other _____

2. Location

street and number 304 South Main Street ☐ not for publication

city, town Hurlock vicinity _____

county Dorchester

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Michael W. Francis

street and number 125 Calvary Street telephone _____

city, town Centreville state MD zip code 21617

4. Location of Legal Description

~~courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.~~ Dorchester County Clerk of Court liber MLB 612 folio 368

city, town Cambridge tax map 400 tax parcel 398 tax ID number 15-000775

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
☐ Other: _____

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<u>2</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	<u>2</u> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory _____

7. Description

Inventory No. D-608

Condition

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Greenbury T. Bell house, located at 304 South Main Street, stands in the center of the town of Hurlock, Dorchester County, Maryland. The two-and-a-half story ell-shaped frame house, erected around 1899-1900, has a two-story, two-bay rear wing. Each section is extended by a decorative turned post porch. Attached to the back of the rear wing is a two-story shed roofed section, which is extended farther back with a single-story vertical board shed. The house faces northeast with the main gable roof oriented on a northwest/southeast axis. Joining the house on the lot is a single-story gable roofed garage dating to the early twentieth century.

Built around 1899-1900, the two-and-a-half story, ell-shaped frame house is supported on a continuous brick foundation and is sheathed with plain weatherboard siding. The ell-shaped main block as well as the two-story, two-bay x one room rear wing are covered with steeply pitched gable roofs covered with asphalt shingles. The northeast (main) elevation has a centrally located entrance with a projecting two-story, semi-octagonal pavilion to the south. Stretching across the front of the house is a single-story turned post porch enhanced with decorative sawn corner brackets that meet in the center of each bay with a millwork decoration. The front door is partially glazed and the first and second stories are lighted by one-over-one sash windows. Shutter hardware remains on house although the shutters have been removed. The projecting semi-octagonal bay has a decorative spindle work hanging from the soffits of the gable roofed pediment. The pediment is pierced by a paired window unit of one-over-one sash windows. The edge of the roof is finished with a boxed cornice. Rising through the house and exceeding the roofline on the south side of the main block is an interior brick chimney stack.

The southeast side elevation is an asymmetrical façade with the single-pile house defined by one-over-one sash windows on each floor. The gable end is finished with an enclosed pediment pierced by a paired set of one-over-one sash windows. To the left (southwest) of the main block is the two-story, two-bay service wing, which is sheltered on the first story by a shed roofed porch supported on turned posts and enriched with sawn corner brackets that meet in the center with a millwork carved wood decoration. A sawn baluster handrail stretches between the posts. The service wing has a side entrance flanked by a single-panes sash window on the first floor and two sash windows light the second story. Piercing the gable end is an interior end brick stack finished with a corbelled cap.

The northwest side elevation of the kitchen wing is extended on the first floor with a shed roofed porch of turned posts similar to the front porch. Half the porch is open and half of it is enclosed as a pantry off the kitchen. The gable end of the main block has a single window unit on each floor, and the enclosed pediment is pierced by a paired set of single-pane sash separated by the width of the interior end brick stack that protrudes through roof. Attached to the back (southwest) wall of the service wing is a two-story shed roofed addition, which is extended farther to the back with a single-story vertical board storage building.

8. Significance

Inventory No. D-608

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/	<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

Construction dates

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

SIGNIFICANCE

Distinctive for its intact Victorian porch of turned posts with turned or sawn baluster handrails, the Greenbury T. Bell house survives in nearly unaltered condition since its construction at the end of the nineteenth century. Estimated to date around 1899 by architectural detailing combined with land record research, the Greenbury T. Bell house follows a well-used plan for the time period with its asymmetrical ell-shaped main block and utilitarian two-story, two-bay service wing. This turn of the century Victorian dwelling, with its intact exterior detailing, adds significantly to the period architectural character of Hurlock's historic district.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

The Greenbury T. Bell house has stood prominently along the west side of South Main Street since the turn twentieth century when it is estimated that it was erected. In August 1899, Greenbury T. Bell, a resident of nearby Williamsburg, purchased part of "Middle Division" from John M. Hurlock during a period of significant physical growth for the railroad town. The property was retained by the Bell children until the third quarter of the twentieth century; William Bell died in 1962, and his and Riley's interests were sold to Arnie and Lorraine Smith in February 1974.¹

¹ Dorchester County Land Record, 183/709, 23 February 1974, Dorchester County Courthouse.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-608

Name Greenbury T. Bell House
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

Greenbury T. Bell House
304 South Main Street
Hurlock, Maryland
Chain of title

Map 401, Parcel 398

MLB 612/368

Joseph Ronald Allen
Geraldine Josephine Allen

to

11.12.2004

Michael W. Francis

\$96,500 (1/3 interest of William Bell was transferred in 183/707,
William Bell died 5.26.1962)

207/84

Dennis B. Kastel and D. Candice Kastel

to

9.25.1978

Joseph Ronald Allen and Geraldine Josephine Allen

PLC 193/403

Arnie L. Smith and Lorraine T. Smith

to

2.6.1976

Dennis B. Kastel and D. Candice Kastel

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Name Greenbury T. Bell House
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

183/709

S. Riley Bell Thompson, Greene County, Georgia

to

2.23.1974

Arnie L. Smith and Lorraine T. Smith

CL 24/718

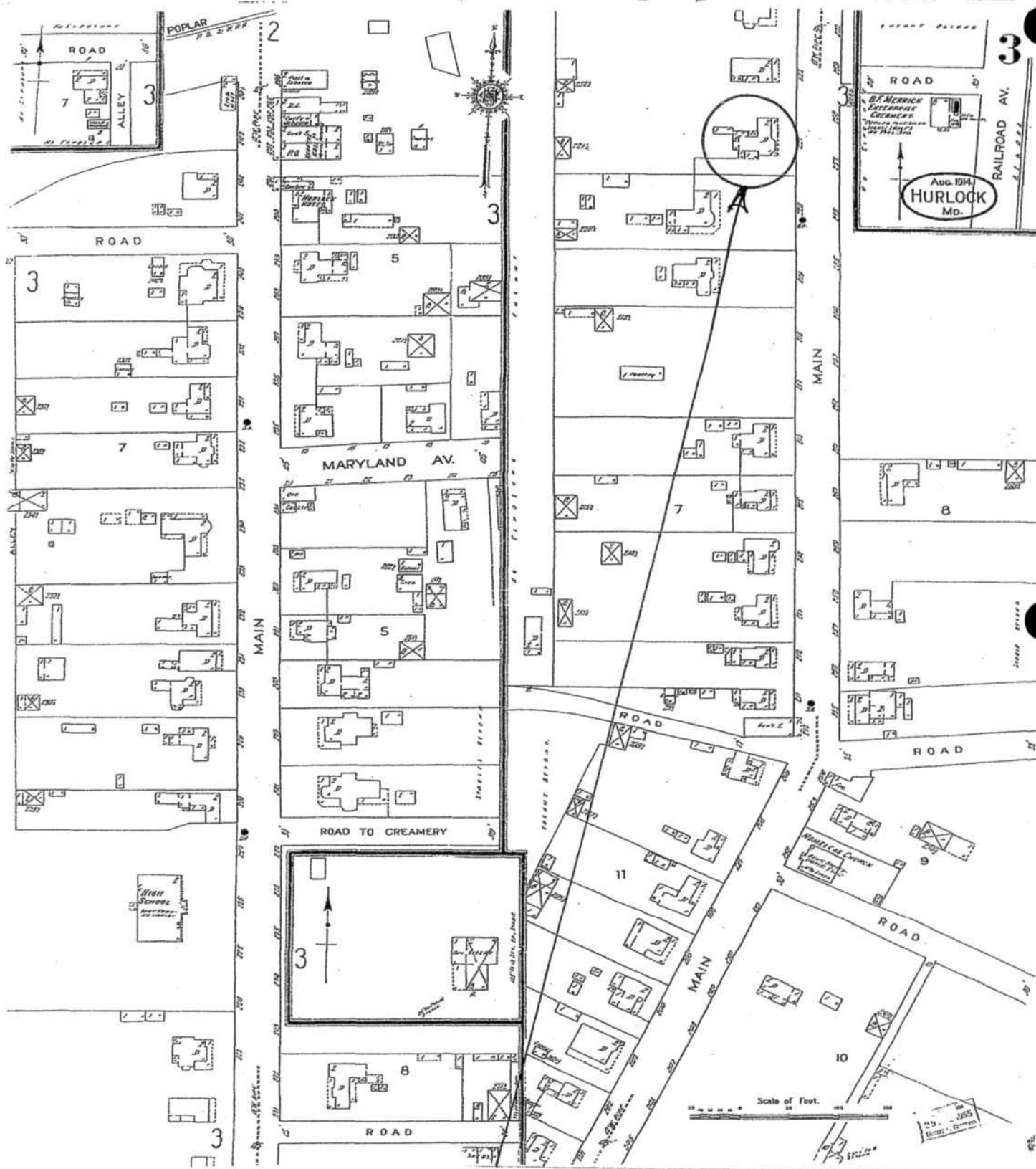
John M. Hurlock, widower

to

8.15.1899

Greenbury T. Bell

\$250.00



D-608, Greenbury T. Bell House
 - Sanborn Insurance Map, 1914

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Dorchester County Land Records, various volumes, Dorchester County Courthouse.

Sanborn Insurance Maps, various issues, Library of Congress.

Stevens, Jessie Virginia. *"Old and Charming: Some of the Older Homes of Hurlock, Maryland"*. 1992.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 1/2 acre

Acreage of historical setting 1/2 acre

Quadrangle name Federalsburg, MD Quadrangle

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The metes and bounds of this property are coincidental with the current boundary of the lot.

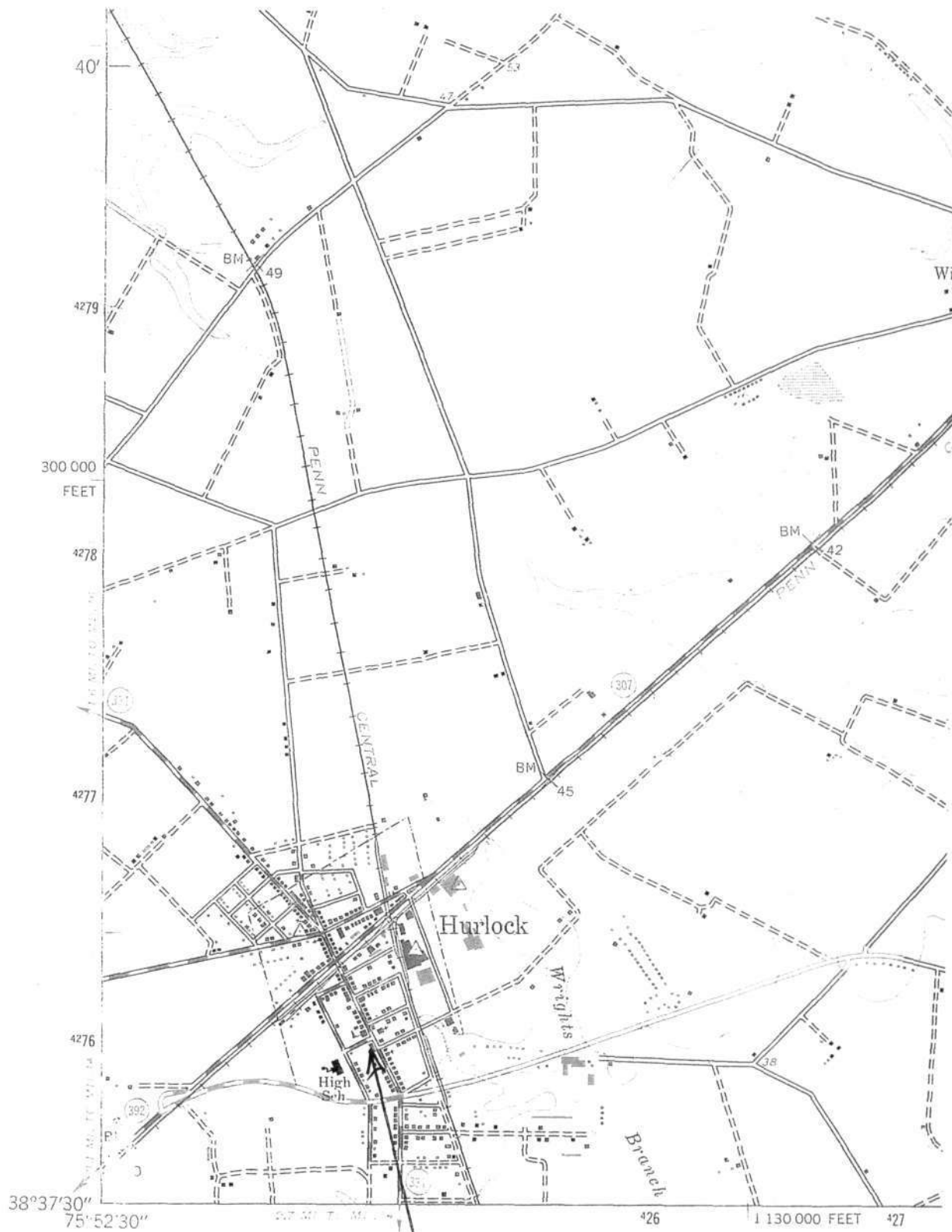
11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Chesapeake Country Heritage & Preservation	date	7.23.08
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600



(EAST NEW MARKET)
586' III SW

Mapped by the Army Map Service
Published for civil use by the Geological Survey

Control by USC&GS

Topography from aerial photographs by photogrammetric methods
and by planetable surveys 1944. Aerial photographs taken 1942

Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Maryland coordinate system
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator
zone 18, shown in blue

Revisions shown in purple compiled by t
aerial photographs taken 1974. This is

★
MN
GN
0°30'
9 MILS
9°
160 MILES

D-608, Greenbury T. Bell House
Federalburg, MD Quadrangle, 1974



D-608

GREENBURY T. Bell House
304 S. Main St.

Hurlock, Dorchester Co., MD.
Southeast Elevation

7/08, Paul Towart, Photographer
W.E./MD. Historical Trust



D-608

GREENBURY T. BELL HOUSE
304 S. MAIN ST.

HURLOCK, DORCHESTER CO., MD.

NORTHWEST ELEVATION

7/08, PAUL TONNET, PHOTOGRAPHER
NEG./MD. HISTORICAL TRUST

2/2

D-608
304 South Main Street
Hurlock
Private

Circa 1900

This house is a more subdued and conservative neighbor to 300 South Main Street (D-607) but still exhibits a good deal of decorative carved woodwork along the front porch and under the eaves of the two-story projecting bay. The porch does not continue around the side of the house but is separated from the side porch by a shallow projection.

D-608
304 South Main St.
Herlock
Federalsburg Quad.
Dorchester Co.





D-608

304 S. Main Street, Hurlock

56%